

Message Text

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ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CU-02 AID-05 A-01 L-02 PER-01

ABF-01 /021 W

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R 200723Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL SURABAYA

TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0563

AMCONSUL MEDAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASCH, ID, US

SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON SURABAYA AMERICAN CONSULATE
SCHOOL (ACS)

SUMMARY: SPACE PROBLEMS LOOM AS ACS REGISTRATION FOR 1975/76 SCHOOL YEAR ALREADY TOTALS 97, WITH 30-50 MORE KIDS EXPECTED. WE WILL HAVE TO NEGOTIATE SPACE RESERVATION AGREEMENTS WITH CITIES SERVICE AND TURNER CORPORATION WHICH ANTICIPATE BRINGING LARGE CONTINGENTS TO SURABAYA THIS SUMMER. WE HAVE ASKED CITIES SERVICE TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF INSERTING CLAUSE IN ITS CONTRACT OF WORK WITH PERTAMINA PROVIDING FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF FOREIGN SCHOOL INTO WHICH WE COULD INCORPORATE. TO ALLEVIATE SPACE PROBLEM, WE PLAN TO REHABILITATE USG WAREHOUSE (WHICH SCHOOL USED FOR CLASSES DURING 1973/74) FOR GRADES 2-4 NEXT YEAR. WE HAVE TAKEN OTHER STEPS TO PROFESSIONALIZE SCHOOL AND BY NOVEMBER 1975 ANTICIPATE BEGINNING PHASED PROGRAM TO REDUCE CONSULATE PARTICIPATION IN SCHOOL WORKLOAD WHILE RETAINING CONSULATE AEGIS NECESSARY UNTIL LEGALIZATION. SCHOOL INCREASINGLY ACCEPTED LOCALLY AS VITAL FEATURE OF SURABAYA FOREIGN COMMUNITY AND WE HAVE SUFFERED NO OFFICIAL HARASSMENT SINCE SCHOOL YEAR BEGAN. END SUMMARY.

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1. ACS SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MARCH 19, BEGAN PROCESS OF

BUDGETARY PLANNING FOR 1975-76 SCHOOL YEAR, INCLUDING FORMULATION OF DEFINITIVE SALARY/QUALIFICATION SCHEDULES FOR TEACHERS, BOOK AND EQUIPMENT ORDERS, SPACE REQUIREMENTS, ETC. SINCE BOARD MEMBER ZIMMERMAN AND I WILL BOTH BE ABSENT ON HOME LEAVE OVER SUMMER, AND THREE NEW ELECTIVE BOARD MEMBERS TAKE OFFICE JULY 1, WE BELIEVED IT PRUDENT TO BEGIN PROCESS NOW. THOUGHT I WOULD TAKE OPPORTUNITY TO UPDATE EMBASSY AND DEPARTMENT ON SCHOOL DEVELOPMENTS.

2. WE FOUND THAT WE HAVE ALREADY REGISTERED 97 CHILDREN FOR 1975-76 SCHOOL YEAR, MOSTLY CONCENTRATED IN LOWER GRADES. THIS ENROLLMENT DOES NOT REFLECT PROBABLE CONTINGENTS OF 12 CHILDREN FROM CITIES SERVICE, TEN CHILDREN FROM TURNER CORPORATION (SEMEN GRESIK EXPANSION), AND USUAL SUMMER UNPREDICTABLES, WHICH LAST YEAR RAN TO 20 KIDS. ENROLLMENT THUS COULD RANGE FROM 120-150 BY SEPTEMBER 1975.

3. BULK OF THIS INCREASE WILL PROBABLY BE NATIVE ENGLISH SPEAKERS FROM LARGE COMPANIES, AND THUS HIGHLY BENEFICIAL TO SCHOOL. DESPITE SPACE PROBLEMS, AS A MATTER OF POLICY I AM STRONGLY OPPOSED TO REJECTING AMERICAN CHILDREN--- OR ANY CHILDREN FOR THAT MATTER. SUCH A SITUATION COULD RESULT IN COMPLAINTS TO GOI AUTHORITIES WHICH WOULD PUT ENTIRE SCHOOL IN JEOPARDY. LUCKILY NO NEW USG CHILDREN EXPECTED EXCEPT POSSIBLY IN APRIL 1976. (CHRISTY'S REPLACEMENT).

4. STEVE BARRINGER OF CITIES SERVICE CALLED A FEW WEEKS AGO AND I BRIEFED HIM ON SPACE AND LEGALITY PROBLEMS OF SCHOOL. I ASKED IF HE COULD ENDEAVOR TO INSERT CLAUSE IN HIS COMPANY'S CONTRACT OF WORK WITH PERTAMINA PROVIDING FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF FOREIGN SCHOOL (INCORPORATING OURS), DUTY-FREE ENTRY OF TEXTBOOKS AND EQUIPMENT, WORK PERMITS FOR TEACHERS, ETC. HE SAID COMPANY IS NOT ANXIOUS AT THIS POINT TO FOUND ITS OWN SCHOOL AND OUR PROPOSAL SEEMED FORTUITOUS ONE, WHICH HE PROMISED TO EXPLORE. HE DID NOT KNOW NUMBER OF CHILDREN COMING THIS SUMMER BUT SAID COMPANY ENVISAGES HIRING 12 AMERICAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EMPLOYEES FOR SERVICE IN SURABAYA DURING CY 75.

5. WITH SPACE PROBLEMS LOOMING, I PLAN TO CALL BARRINGER AND TILKE OF TURNER CORPORATION TO SUGGEST THAT WE NEGOTIATE WRITTEN AGREEMENT WHEREBY WE WILL RESERVE SPECIFIED NUMBER OF SPACES FOR THEIR CHILDREN, FOR WHICH COMPANIES WILL PAY UNREFUNDABLE FIRST TRIMESTER TUITION AND REGISTRATION FEE.

6. AS RESULT OF PROJECTED EXPANSION, BOARD CONCLUDED THAT WE WILL DEFINITELY HAVE TO REOPEN USG WAREHOUSE AT JALAN DIPONEGORO 235 FOR USE BY GRADES TWO THROUGH FOUR NEXT YEAR. SCHOOL INVESTED \$2500 TO RENOVATE THIS FACILITY DURING 1973-74 SCHOOL YEAR, AND WE ARE NOW USING IT AS WAREHOUSE FOR ALL AGENCIES AT POST. WE PLAN TO BEGIN REHABILITATION OF THIS FACILITY AND ORDER NECESSARY EQUIPMENT WITHIN NEXT FEW WEEKS.

7. BOARD ALSO DECIDED THAT EXPANSION WILL NECESSITATE INCREASE IN TUITION. THIS INCREASE IN TURN CAN BE MOST EASILY SOLD TO PARENTS IF WE UPGRADE QUALITY OF EDUCATION WE ARE PROVIDING. WE THUS PLAN TO BUDGET FOR EXPANSION OF OUR RUDIMENTARY MUSIC, SPORTS, DANCE AND SCIENCE COURSES. THERE IS ALSO POSSIBILITY THAT WE CAN SECURE OUR FIRST FULL-TIME EXPATRIATE TEACHER THIS SPRING.

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8. PROFESSIONALIZATION OF OUR SCHOOL HAS PROCEEDED APACE DURING PRESENT SCHOOL YEAR. THANKS TO ASSISTANCE FROM DLG WITH LOCAL MILITARY AUTHORITIES, AND SUPPORT FROM PARENTS, WE HAVE ACTIVE AFTERNOON AND WEEKEND SOCCER, VOLLEYBALL AND GIRLS' BASKETBALL PROGRAMS. (SATURDAY MORNING INDONESIAN-AMERICAN SOCCER MATCH DRAWS LARGE CROWD OF INFONESIAN SPORTS FANS AND HAS HELPED IMAGE

OF SCHOOL IN COMMUNITY). AIRLANGGA UNIVERSITY HAS OFFERED USE OF ITS SPORTS FACILITIES. OUR PART-TIME EXPATRIATE TEACHING STAFF IS NOW HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND OUR BUDGETARY PROCESS HAS BEEN REGULARIZED.

9. I WOULD HOPE THAT BY NOVEMBER 1975 WE CAN PHASE OUR ADMIN OFFICER OUT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD AND PERHAPS TERMINATE CONSUL'S EX OFICIO CHAIRMANSHIP AS WELL BY JUNE 1976. NATURALLY UNTIL SCHOOL IS LEGALIZED, CONSULATE AEGIS WILL BE REQUIRED. BUT WITH ONLY FIVE CONSULATE KIDS OUT OF POSSIBLY 150 ENROLLMENT EXPECTED NEXT YEAR, THAT FIGLEAF IS GETTING A LITTLE TATTERED. I EMPHASIZE, HOWEVER, THAT GOVERNOR NOER HAS MENTIONED HIS SUPPORT FOR THE SCHOOL SEVERAL TIMES DURING THE PAST YEAR; COLONEL SOELANDRA OF EAST JAVA EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS CLOSE FRIEND OF CONSULATE; AND OUR ONLY HARASSMENT HAS BEEN FROM USUAL MARAUDING STREET ELEMENTS SEEKING ILLEGAL "SUMBANGANS." LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DESPITE ABSENCE OF FORMAL AUTHORIZATION, SCHOOL IS INCREASINGLY BEING ACCEPTED AS NORMAL ASPECT OF SURABAYA SCENE. HOWLAND

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